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House to join me in extending wholehearted congratulations to the Farmer-Chef Marketing Alliance.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 11, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3061) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my support for the H.R. 3061.

I believe this bill represents a good bipartisan effort which focuses on priorities many good programs that will benefit our nations and its citizen.

This bill also contains provisions which will be crucial in our efforts to rebuild the nation's confidence during the difficult days since the events of September 11, 2001.

I want to also express my appreciation to the chairman and the ranking Appropriations Committee and the Chairman and Ranking Member of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Subcommittee, who had the responsibility of crafting this legislation and included provisions for the global fight against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

These provisions will expand funding for our global HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria efforts on the African continent, and in developing countries throughout the world.

As many of you know, more than two years ago, I began to work with my colleagues to build a bipartisan and bicameral coalition to raise the level of attention and expand the United States response to the global AIDS crisis.

Although we can and must do more to fight this killer disease, the provisions funded in this bill provide proof that with leadership and a strong will to bring relief to those who need it most, we can and will work together toward eradicating the global scourge of AIDS from the face of the earth.

We all know that HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria continue to ravage Africa and developing countries throughout the world.

Each day, over 17,000 people die each day from AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria worldwide! Our nation is leading the global fight against these infectious diseases. However, we can and must do more.

We have only reached the tip of the iceberg in the global AIDS crisis and it is compounded by TB and malaria mortality rates. It is clear that our fight must continue.

Without an expanded and coordinated response, the CDC, international AIDS experts

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

and health experts indicate that new HIV infections, alone, will rise to 100 million by the year 2007. Already over 50 million people have been infected worldwide—over 70% of those infections are in sub-Saharan Africa.

Once the global AIDS fund is operational, it will support a wide range of interventions, from education and prevention to the procurement of HIV/AIDS/TB related drugs and commodities, including antiretroviral agents in situations where their use can be effectively managed, and anti-malaria interventions such as insecticide-treated bed nets.

The goal is to have the global fund in operation with the capacity to manage resources and procure essential drugs and commodities by early 2002. To maximize the global fund's impact, the funds should be used for results-based programs that specifically increase the number of people covered by the direct provision of drugs, other commodities and services to beneficiaries in countries severely affected by these diseases.

The fact that techniques which prevent the spread of HIV infection exist, and that drugs exist that can substantially reduce the rate of mother-to-child transmission and prolong the lives of people who are infected, makes it incumbent on us to immediately utilize whatever budgetary mechanisms are available.

The funding provided in this bill moves us closer to that goal.

It is for these reasons that I support this legislation and urge my colleague to also support it.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 11, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3061) making appropriations for the Department of labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise to bring attention to the need to appropriate an additional \$5 million to Education Technology State Grants. This will offset the Safe and Drug-Free Schools by \$5 million.

Throughout the last two decades, information technology has become increasingly prevalent in society. We, as policymakers, have been interested in the use of this technology in elementary and secondary schools partly out of concern over poor student performance, and the idea that educational technology can improve that performance. Also, many of us feel that students in America should receive training in school that will enable them to work in an increasingly technological environment. Furthermore, the Administration has stated

October 12, 2001

that schools should use technology as a tool to improve academic achievement, and that using the latest technology in the classroom should not be an end unto itself.

The purpose of my amendment speaks to the interests of Congress and that of the Administration. This amendment will provide more funding to a program that has worked for our kids. For fiscal year 2002, this bill will appropriate the same amount of funding it did last year. If we truly want our students to excel in technology so that they can successfully compete in this increasingly technological environment, we must continue to provide them with the tools necessary to do so. This is exactly what education technology state grants provide.

Education technology state grants provide schools with the necessary support for the acquisition and use of technology and technology enhanced curriculums, instructions, and administrative support to improve education in elementary and secondary schools. Funds are allocated to states proportionate to their share of ESEA Title 1, Part A funding, which speaks to the heart of the digital divide—providing technology to those who otherwise would not have the opportunity to access it.

Mr. Chairman, as the need for more people who are technologically savvy increases, we need to be certain that our students have the ability to successfully compete globally. There is no reason why companies on American soil continue to look for technologists outside of our country when we have able minds and bodies here. Let us take care of our country's future now. Let us assure America and its people that a decade from now we will have Americans who can run our computer programs and be the inventors of the latest technology.

If the need to be competitive does not steer my colleagues in the right direction, let the need to have Americans only have access to our computers. Let Americans only have the ability to decode top secret information that may prevent further attacks against us. Let Americans lead us out of our vulnerable stage.

I urge my colleagues to support my amendment and continue supporting our children in their efforts to become technologically savvy so that they may control our future.

INTRODUCING POSTAGE WAIVER
BILL FOR DONATIONS TO
"AMERICA'S FUND FOR AFGHAN
CHILDREN"

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, on October 11, 2001, President Bush announced the establishment of the "America's Fund For Afghan Children" and asked America's children to send one dollar to the children of Afghanistan. In order to enhance the impact of our children's charitable contributions, I am introducing legislation to waive U.S. postage for donations to this fund.

The "America's Fund For Afghan Children," will be overseen by the American Red Cross,